

Exhibit No. 7Date 3-4-11Bill No. SB 237**USDA-APHIS PROPOSED INTERIM RULE**

75 Fed. Reg. 81090 (Dec. 27, 2010)

The Old Rule: A Class Free State or area lost its Class Free status if two or more herds were found to have brucellosis within 24 months or if a brucellosis-affected herd was not depopulated within 60 days.

The New Rule: A Class Free State or area will be **allowed to maintain its Class Free status if:**

- “1. The affected herds are maintained under quarantine;
2. A herd plan has been implemented for each affected herd to prevent the spread of brucellosis;
3. The animals under quarantine are periodically tested for brucellosis as required by the Administrator and all animals that do not test negative are removed and destroyed until there is no evidence of brucellosis within the herd; and
4. The State conducts surveillance adequate to detect brucellosis if it is present in other herds or species.”

The New Rule requires any Class Free State or area in which the Administrator has determined that wildlife are infected with brucellosis to “develop and implement a brucellosis management plan approved by the Administrator.”

The brucellosis management plan must:

- “1. Define and explain the basis for the geographic area in which a disease risk exists from *B. abortus* and to which the brucellosis management plan activities apply;
2. Describe epidemiological assessment and surveillance activities to identify occurrence of *B. abortus* in domestic livestock and wildlife and potential risks for spread of disease; and
3. Describe mitigation activities to prevent the spread of *b. abortus* from domestic livestock and/or wildlife, as applicable, within or from the brucellosis management area.”